

SELECTMEN'S REPORT
OF THE
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
OF THE
TOWN OF EPPING.
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1872
WITH THE
REPORTS
OF THE
AUDITORS AND SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL
COMMITTEE, ANNEXED

MANCHESTER:
CAMPBELL & HANSCOM, PRINTERS, 839 ELM STREET.
1872.



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REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN AND TREASURER.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The Selectmen and Treasurer charge themselves with cash in the hands of—

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| N. G. Plumer, Collector, 1869 | \$3 09 |
| C. F. Edgerly, Collector, 1870 | 705 39 |
| A list of taxes assessed and committed to Joseph Gar- | |
| land for collection | 9,920 54 |
| State railroad money | 605 66 |
| Savings bank | 221 48 |
| Literary fund | 67 20 |
| Hired of sundry persons | 26,041 79 |
| Received from county for support of paupers | 276 84 |
| Received of B. W. Hoyt and Mrs. H. W. Smith | 3 50 |
| | <hr/> \$37,845 49 |

They credit themselves with—

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Paid State Treasurer State tax | \$2,286 00 |
| County Treasurer county tax | 1,845 86 |
| Notes and interest to sundry persons | 27,142 36 |
| Non-resident tax | 30 14 |
| | <hr/> \$31,304 36 |

PAID FOR SCHOOLS.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------------------|
| District No. 1. | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | \$236 01 |
| " " 2. | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 117 04 |
| " " 3. | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 97 88 |
| " " 4. | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 137 85 |
| " " 5. | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 193 34 |
| " " 6. | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 153 82 |
| " " 7. | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 188 80 |
| " " 8. | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 274 00 |
| H. M. Glidden, Lee, John A. Wiggins' school tax | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 5 07 |
| | | | | | | | | | <hr/> \$1,403 81 |

SELECTMEN'S SERVICES LAST YEAR.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| John L. Folsom | \$8 00 |
| Wm. R. Bunker | 8 00 |
| N. G. Plumer | 8 00 |
| <hr/> | |
| \$24 00 | |

John L. Folsom, services as Selectman, in and out of Town :
1871.

| | |
|--|--------|
| March 18, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | \$1 00 |
| 30, " " | 1 00 |
| April 1 and 3, 2 days, self and horse, taking inventory | 6 00 |
| 8, $\frac{3}{4}$ day, and attending jury meeting | 1 75 |
| 10 and 12, 2 days in session | 3 50 |
| 17, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| 22, self and horse, at D. E. Cilley's, about division of school district No. 5 | 2 00 |
| 24 and 25, self and horse, 2 journeys to Exeter on pauper business | 4 00 |
| May 1, Journey to Raymond on pauper business | 1 00 |
| 5, 1 day filling out highway surveyors' warrants | 1 75 |
| 6, $\frac{1}{2}$ day on town business | 1 00 |
| 8, distributing surveyors' warrants | 75 |
| 16, journey to Exeter and to George A. Gotham's, on pauper business | 2 00 |

| | | |
|-------|--|---------|
| June | 3 days copying invoice | \$5 25 |
| Aug. | 16, 1 day examining volunteers' records . . . | 1 75 - |
| Sept. | 14, self and horse perambulating New Market and South New Market town lines | 3 00 |
| | 16, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| | 30, 1 day, self and horse, perambulating Lee line | 3 00 |
| Oct. | 2, journey to Plumer's to get affidavits relating to soldiers' claims | 75 |
| | 7, self and horse, perambulating Raymond and Fremont town lines | 2 50 |
| | 9, self and horse, perambulating Lee line and setting bounds | 3 00 |
| | 12 and 13, 2 days at Concord with Reimburse- ment Committee | 3 00 |
| | 12 and 13, car fare and expenses | 4 40 |
| | 23, journey to Bunker's to make out pauper account | 50 |
| | 24, journey to Portsmouth to get pauper claims allowed | 1 50 |
| | 24, car fare and expenses | 1 50 |
| Nov. | 18, $\frac{1}{2}$ day at town house | 1 00 |
| Dec. | 9, " " | 1 00 |
| | 21, journey to Concord with committee . . . | 1 50 |
| | 21, car fare and expenses | 2 80 |
| | 30, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| 1872. | | |
| Jan. | 13, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| | 20, self and horse to Levi Towles' | 1 00 |
| | 23, self and horse to Exeter on town business | 2 00 |
| | 27, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| Feb. | 10, $\frac{1}{2}$ " " | 1 00 |
| | 21, 1 " " | 1 75 |
| | 24, 1 " " | 1 75 |
| | 27, 1 " " | 1 75 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$76 45 |

Nathaniel G. Plumer, services as selectman, in and out of town:
1871.

| | | |
|-------|--|--------|
| March | 18, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | \$1 00 |
| | 30, $\frac{1}{2}$ " | 1 00 |
| April | 1, 3, 4 and 5, 3 days, self and horse, taking inventory | 7 50 |
| | 8, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| | 10 and 12, 2 days in session | 3 50 |
| | 17, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| | 20, $\frac{1}{2}$ " | 1 00 |
| | 22, $\frac{1}{2}$ day at D. E. Cilley's, about division of School District No. 5 | 1 00 |
| | 24 and 25, 2 journeys to Exeter on town busi- ness | 3 00 |
| | 26, 27 and 28, 3 days making taxes | 5 25 |
| May | 1, 3 and 4, 3 days making highway taxes and filling collector's book | 5 25 |
| | 5 and 6, $1\frac{1}{2}$ days in session | 2 75 |
| | 8, self and horse distributing highway surveyor warrants | 2 50 |
| | 9, $\frac{1}{2}$ day on town business | 1 00 |
| | 17, journey to S. Rollins' and taking Mrs. Cass to County farm | 1 25 |
| | 18, journey to examine Watchick and Canal bridges | 50 |
| July | 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ day on town business | 1 00 |
| Aug. | 11 and 16, 2 days examining records of volun- teers | 3 50 |
| | 28, 29 and 30, $2\frac{1}{2}$ days making and apportion- ing school taxes | 4 50 |
| | 31, journey to West Epping, and making and posting warrant for town meeting | 1 50 |
| Sept. | 1, sending pauper to County farm | 50 |
| | 19, journey to West Epping | 1 00 |
| | 23, journey to Court at Dover, and expenses | 2 95 |
| | 26, 27 and 28, $2\frac{1}{2}$ days examining records, mak- ing out and revising lists of bounties | 4 50 |
| | 30, Oct. 9 and 14, $2\frac{1}{2}$ days perambulating Lee line and setting bounds | 5 00 |

| | | |
|-------|---|---------|
| Oct. | 17, self and horse, perambulating Nottingham line | \$3 00 |
| | 17, paid D. E. Cilley, for hauling stone | 25 |
| | 21, journey to West Epping and to Mrs. Tilton's | 1 50 |
| | 23, making out pauper accounts | 75 |
| | 31, perambulating Brentwood line | 2 00 |
| Nov. | 18, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| Dec. | 9, $\frac{1}{2}$ " | 1 00 |
| | 30, $\frac{1}{2}$ " | 1 00 |
| 1872, | | |
| Jan. | 5, journey to West Epping and to Mrs. Tilton's | 1 50 |
| | 27, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| Feb. | 24, 1 " making check lists and warrant for town meeting | 1 75 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$77 70 |

Caleb F. Edgerly, services as Selectman in and out of town,
and Overseer of the Poor.

| | | |
|-------|---|--------|
| 1871 | | |
| March | 18, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | \$1 00 |
| | 30, $\frac{1}{2}$ " " | 1 00 |
| April | 1, 3, and 5, $2\frac{1}{2}$ days, self and horse taking inventory | 7 50 |
| | 8, $\frac{1}{2}$ day in session | 1 00 |
| | 10 and 12, 2 days in session | 3 50 |
| | 14, journey to Concord on town business, car fare and expenses | 1 75 |
| | 17 and 20, 2 half days in session | 2 50 |
| | 22, $\frac{1}{2}$ day at D. E. Cilley's in relation to dividing school district No. 5 | 2 00 |
| | | 1 00 |
| May | 5 and 6, $1\frac{1}{2}$ day making highway surveyor warrants | 2 75 |
| | 8, self and horse distributing surveyors' books | 2 50 |
| | 13 and 15, 2 journeys self and horse to Nottingham | 1 50 |
| | 18, journey to Canal and Watchick bridges | 1 25 |
| Aug. | 16, 1 day examining volunteers' records | 1 75 |
| | 18, journey to J. L. Folsom's | 1 00 |
| | 26, journey self and horse to New Market and So. New Market to procure affidavits from soldiers | 3 00 |
| | paid for administering oaths, and postage | 75 |

| | | |
|-------|--|---------|
| Sept. | 10, journey to D. S. Neal's, and other town business | \$1 50 |
| | 14, self and horse 1 day perambulating town line | 3 00 |
| | 30, 1 day | 2 00 |
| Oct. | 9 and 14, 1½ do. | 3 00 |
| | 17, 1 day | 2 00 |
| | 31, self and horse 1 day | 3 00 |
| Nov. | 18, ½ day in session | 1 00 |
| Dec. | 9, ½ day in session | 1 00 |
| | 20, revising jury box | 50 |
| | 30, ½ day in session | 1 00 |
| 1872 | | |
| Jan. | 13 and 27, 2 half days in session | 2 00 |
| Feb. | 2, journey to Haverhill on town business | 1 75 |
| | car fare and expenses | 2 15 |
| | 10, ½ day in session | 1 00 |
| | 12, journey to J. B. Chase's to tender him money | 50 |
| | 24, 1 day in session | 1 75 |
| | attending 2 jury meetings | 1 00 |
| | 27, 1 day in session | 1 75 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$65 65 |

H. B. Burnham, services as Superintending School Committee.

1871

| | | |
|-------|---|--------|
| April | 19 to Nov. 20, To examination of 12 teachers at sundry times | \$3 00 |
| April | 22, ½ day at hearing of petitions for a division of school district No. 5 | 1 00 |
| April | 25 to 30, visits examining schools in town at different times | 30 00 |

1872

| | | |
|------|--|---------|
| Feb. | 24, making report to town | 1 00 |
| | “ “ to State Supt. of Instruction at Concord | 5 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$40 00 |

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

| | |
|---|--------|
| George S. Rundlett, lumber | \$9 02 |
| George H. Gotham, labor on highway, district No. 13 | 2 00 |
| G. D. Durgin, use of scraper, 1869 | 2 00 |
| J. S. Well, stone and timber for Mill Bridge | 2 00 |
| D. D. Cook, labor on highway, stone, timber, &c., 1870 | 12 00 |
| F. E. Bean, labor on Mill, Boston, and West Epping Bridges | 21 50 |
| E. C. Brown, gravel | 2 97 |
| G. Ramsbottom, plank | 7 00 |
| S. A. Bean, breaking roads, 1870 | 4 29 |
| S. A. Bean, railing for Mill Bridge | 3 00 |
| Ezra F. Barber, gravel | 1 19 |
| Wm. Durant, labor on road | 4 00 |
| E. C. Brown, do. | 4 00 |
| Walter Durgin " | 18 28 |
| Nathan Smith " | 4 00 |
| E. C. Brown " | 6 75 |
| Thomas Lalley " | 10 00 |
| Charles Wood " | 11 00 |
| J. H. Pike, bridge plank | 35 84 |
| Francis Harvey (heirs) | 11 00 |
| James Robinson, labor on Watchick Bridge | 4 00 |
| G. W. Ordway, labor, paint, oil, &c., on bridges | 25 66 |
| Wier Davis, labor on highway | 2 80 |
| J. O. Edgerly do. | 10 00 |
| H. G. Sanborn " | 18 00 |
| A. Plumer " | 13 00 |
| J. Edgerly, timber and " | 33 00 |
| H. S. Leach " | 6 00 |
| B. F. Hill " | 7 20 |
| True W. Davis " | 3 00 |
| Samuel Plumer, jr. " | 13 75 |
| C. F. Edgerly " | 19 50 |
| S. B. Rollins " | 8 00 |
| John H. Boody " | 9 00 |
| H. G. Sanborn, for gravel | 3 62 |
| Thomas Johnson, labor on highway | 10 00 |
| Nathaniel Bennett, " " | 6 00 |
| Thos. Hopkinson, " " | 12 75 |

| | |
|---|---------|
| Hackett and Durgin, iron work for bridge | \$29 65 |
| J. L. Rundlett, labor on highway | 10 20 |
| Daniel Pinkham, " " | 4 00 |
| Joseph Clough, " " | 1 87 |
| Thomas Caswell, " " | 5 20 |
| Henry Leach, " " | 3 75 |
| John P. Chase, " " | 4 80 |
| Joseph C. Burley, " " | 38 00 |
| Wm. H. Tilton, " " | 10 75 |
| Benoni Bartlett, " " | 2 00 |
| Daniel B. Ladd, " " | 6 25 |
| D. L. Harvey, damage done plow on highway | 1 00 |
| Jacob Tilton, labor on highway, and stone | 12 00 |
| John S. Blaisdell, labor on highway | 6 25 |
| Edgerly & Blaisdell, bridge plank | 57 20 |
| J. P. Sanborn, gravel and drawing the same | 5 82 |
| G. W. Lawrence for gravel | 13 50 |
| J. H. Bly for gravel | 5 12 |
| S. P. Dow, labor on highway | 7 20 |
| J. M. Godfrey, labor on bridges | 18 92 |
| J. Stokes, labor on highway | 3 00 |
| R. Thompson for timber | 5 00 |
| D. F. Bartlett, labor on highway | 15 00 |
| D. C. Edgerly, " " | 4 00 |
| A. T. Rundlett, " " | 1 75 |
| Levi Towle, stringers for bridge | 15 00 |
| Geo. B. Brown, labor on highway | 8 00 |
| Robert Beals, " " | 8 80 |
| Wm. Durant, " " | 4 00 |
| Daniel True, West Epping bridge | 12 50 |
| J. S. Rollins, " highway | 1 50 |
| E. K. Jenness, " " | 3 00 |
| Alfred Mills, " bridges | 6 00 |
| Levi Thompson, repairing | 30 |
| Joseph Eaton, timber for bridge | 50 |
| G. S. Rundlett, timber and labor on Watchick bridge | 24 00 |
| G. W. Lawrence, gravel | 1 60 |
| C. P. Blake, timber for bridge | 30 40 |
| W. R. Bunker spikes and nails for bridges | 8 07 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| J. L. Folsom, timber for bridges | \$203 15 |
| “ labor on “ | 12 00 |
| Robert Pike, gravel | 2 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$990 17 |

SUPPLIES AND SUPPORT OF POOR.

| | |
|--|----------|
| S. B. Rollins for support of Mrs. Phillip Cass . . . | \$137 00 |
| George H. Gotham for support of Susan B. Jones . . | 73 50 |
| George H. Gotham, keeping transient paupers . . . | 1 26 |
| John L. Folsom, keeping and carrying Asa Towle to County Farm | 2 00 |
| Susan B. Jones, aid | 21 75 |
| Wm. R. Bunker, supplies furnished Mrs. Sarah Tilton | 39 75 |
| Wm. R. Bunker, supplies | 19 50 |
| Nathaniel Goldsmith, per cost on suit to recover rent on Sarah Tilton's place | 18 00 |
| J. H. Pike & Co., for goods furnished S. Spencer and Mrs. Tilton | 55 57 |
| H. B. Burnham for medical services | 9 00 |
| Sarah Dearborn for nursing Mrs. Tilton | 15 00 |
| Sarah Dearborn for washing clothes for Mrs. Tilton . | 1 25 |
| Town of New Market for coffin, shroud and burying Mrs. Geo. Kenniston | 17 10 |
| Wm. N. Dow & Co., supplies furnished Seth Emerson | 104 00 |
| John L. Folsom, keeping transient paupers | 2 25 |
| Levi Towle, board for Lawrence Brown | 21 00 |
| B. F. Hill, supplies furnished Sarah Tilton | 3 35 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$541 28 |

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Campbell & Hanscom, printing town reports 1871 . . | \$32 00 |
| Levi Towle, damage to sheep by dogs, 1870 | 11 34 |
| Stephen Holt “ “ “ “ | 36 85 |
| Daniel E. Smith “ “ “ “ | 5 67 |
| E. C. Brown “ “ “ “ | 6 37 |
| H. B. Burnham, services as auditor | 4 00 |
| T. C. Folsom “ “ | 4 00 |

| | |
|---|----------|
| Invoice and record books, town officer, stationery and stamps | \$29 04 |
| Rev. J. H. Stearns, Fogg donation | 6 00 |
| Geo. W. Shepherd, perambulating town lines | 5 00 |
| Daniel Little " " | 1 50 |
| Perley Robinson " " | 1 50 |
| Enoch Pearson, use of pump | 3 00 |
| Joshua B. Wiggin " " | 3 00 |
| Geo. K. Perkins " " | 3 00 |
| Eben K. Jenness " " | 3 00 |
| Daniel B. Dame, repairs on town house | 9 50 |
| Geo. W. Hopkinson, repairing pound | 4 00 |
| James M. Godfrey, measuring lumber and taking affidavits | 2 00 |
| Robert Beals, taking care of Town House | 10 00 |
| J. N. B. Green for damage to horse and carriage by breaking through bridge | 45 00 |
| A. W. Davis, damage butcher's cart and harness on Diamond Hill Road | 15 00 |
| C. P. Blake, damage to sleigh | 7 00 |
| Joseph Garland, services as Collector | 99 20 |
| Joseph Garland, services as Constable | 3 00 |
| John S. Bunker, " " | 3 00 |
| John Leddy, services as Town Clerk | 35 00 |
| H. B. Burnham, medical attendance to Mrs. Tilton | 7 00 |
| John L. Folsom, services as Treasurer | 30 00 |
| John L. Folsom, journey and expenses to Manchester to get town report printed | 3 45 |
| Levi Towle, wood for town house | 6 50 |
| Wm. R. Bunker, Selectmen's expenses | 12 00 |
| D. L. Ramsbottom, damage on highway | 4 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$450 92 |
| Sundry abatements for the year 1869 | \$2 55 |
| " " " 1870 | 78 45 |
| " " " 1871 | 41 93 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$122 93 |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Cash in hands of Joseph Garland | 502 90 |
| Cash in hands of John L. Folsom, Treasurer | 2,245 32 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$37,845 49 |

Epping, N. H., March 1, 1872.

JOHN L. FOLSOM,
NATHANIEL G. PLUMER,
CALEB F. EDGERLY,
Selectmen of Epping.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

We, the undersigned have examined the books and accounts of the Selectmen and find them correctly cast with proper vouchers. From a memorandum of notes kept by the Treasurer of the town, we find the town indebtedness, as follows :

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Notes held by sundry persons | \$36,644 72 |
| Estimated interest | 2,375 90 |
| | <hr/> |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Amount of notes and estimated interest | \$39,020 62 |
|--|-------------|

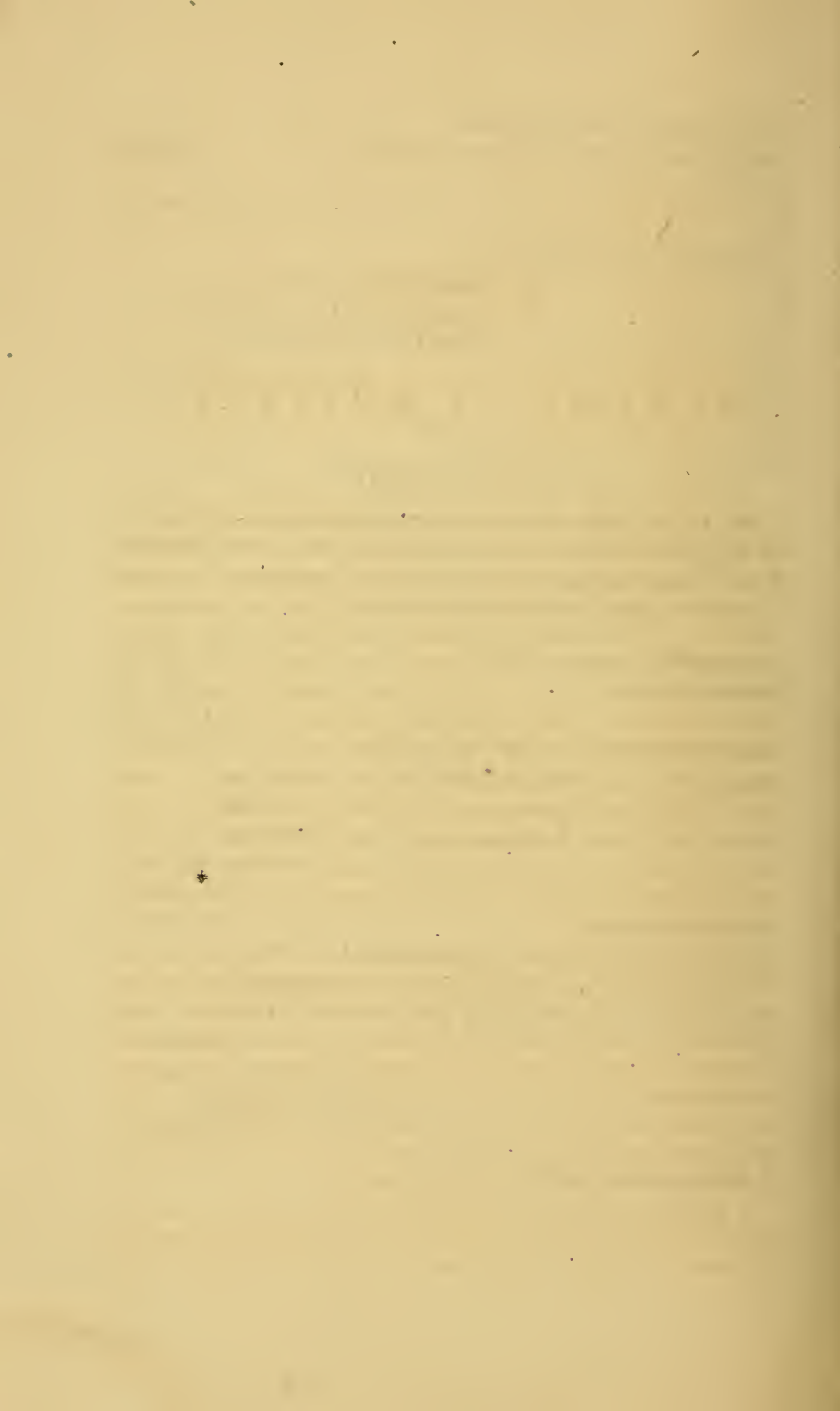
| | |
|---|------------|
| There is due from J. Garland, Collector | \$502 90 |
| “ “ “ County | 12 00 |
| “ “ “ J. L. Folsom, town treas. | 2,244 32 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$2,760 22 |

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Total indebtedness | \$36,260 40 |
|------------------------------|-------------|

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Amount of bonds due from the State for municipal war expenditures | \$11,200 00 |
| Interest on the same from Jan. 1, | 112 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$11,312 00 |

H. B. BURNHAM,
T. C. FOLSOM,
Auditors.

Epping, March 1, 1872,



REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

One of the duties which has been prescribed for the Superintendent of common schools, is to present annually a detailed report of the condition of the schools under his care, and of his labors for the year, accompanied by certain statistical tables, showing the "number of weeks which the public schools have been kept in each district in summer and in winter, and what portion thereof has been kept by male and what portion by female teachers; the whole number of scholars that have attended each school; the progress made in each school in the various branches of learning; the number of children between the ages of four and fourteen years, in each district, that have not attended school therein; and the number of persons in each district between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one years, who cannot read and write, with such suggestions as may be useful upon the management of schools and the subject of education."

Prudential committees, during the past year, have been generally successful in securing the services of experienced and competent teachers; not a teacher has been employed who had not some experience in teaching, and a few had previously acquired a good reputation for their conscientious discharge of duty. All whose qualifications were not well known to me, were subject to a rigid examination, and there was no hesitation in rejecting those who were found incompetent, or who could not or did not pass the requisite examination in a creditable manner.

A very considerable portion of time has been spent in visiting the schools, for this was considered one of the most important of a committee's duties. Forty-seven such visits were made. They

were made for obvious reasons at irregular periods of time, unanticipated by both teacher and scholars, and were attended with very perceptible and favorable influences upon them. During a few of these visits, your committee was merely a listener, at some others, only asking a few questions or making such suggestions upon the lesson or method of teaching, as appeared appropriate ; but at other times, conducting the recitation and making it an examination of what the class had previously gone over. It was my purpose to learn the real condition of each school as regards the instruction given, the manner of imparting it, and the progress made in the several branches taught. The discipline of the schools, the character of the teacher as exhibited before his or her pupils, the mode of teaching, governing and the formation of correct habits of study and thought ; the general habits of the scholars in going and coming from school as well as in the school-room ; the condition of the room, its temperature and ventilation, the cleanliness of the floor and desks, and very many other things, which a teacher would or ought to observe, were not unnoticed by me ; neither did I fail to make such criticisms and suggestions as the circumstances seemed to require.

At the commencement of the several schools, an effort was made to secure the constant and regular attendance of all the scholars. Teachers were requested to use their influence and make every exertion to have their pupils attend regularly ; the necessity of such regular attendance was constantly urged upon the scholars, and whenever an opportunity offered the attention of the parents was particularly called to this point. There has been some improvement which can readily be seen by a careful examination of the statistical tables, and a comparison with those of former years ; still irregular attendance is the great impediment to the success of our schools, and will probably continue to be until parents manifest more interest in the education of their children. They are at present sent to school, not to learn the proper duties of life, not to become men and women, but merely to acquire a little knowledge, which will enable them to pass more smoothly through the world. The State, heretofore providing for the imprisonment of some in penitentiaries, the support of others at town or county alms-houses, has at last come to the conclusion, that it is better to stop rearing rascals and fools, and has wisely enacted a law compelling parents and guardians to send their children and wards to school.

A copy of this law has been posted in every school district, and the school registers will be filed with the Town Clerk, so my successor will be able to learn whether or not there has been any violation of its provisions. Public opinion should sustain this law, and it should be rigidly enforced. If the perpetuity of a republican form of government depends upon the intelligence of its citizens, and consequently all must aid in the support of a system of common schools, why should a part of its future citizens be permitted to grow up in ignorance?

That there has been more interest in our schools during the past year is evident from the number of visits made to them, and while it is extremely gratifying to note this unusual attention on the part of parents and others, I would suggest the propriety of still increasing the number of these visits, and at other times than at the close of the term.

Upon the school registers furnished our teachers, was printed the following note: "Every teacher at the close of his school, and at the end of each term thereof, shall make a return of such register or record to the school committee of the town, who shall give to him a certificate thereof; and no teacher shall receive payment for his services until such certificate is produced and delivered to the prudential committee." Chap. 5, sec. 18 Digest of School Laws. Notwithstanding the attention of our teachers was particularly called to this note, the return of some of the registers was delayed, and when returned they were found to be incorrectly kept and imperfectly filled out, thus annoying and putting the S. S. Committee to considerable inconvenience, since the information contained in those registers has to be arranged and compiled for the State Supt. of Instruction, and forwarded to his office, or the town will forfeit their proportion of the literary fund. The registers in districts Nos. 2, 4, and 8 were correctly kept, made out, and returned; all others were more or less imperfect. I would suggest to prudential committees that hereafter they should be governed by the letter of the law, and pay no teacher his or her wages until a certificate was produced from the Supt. Committee that his or her duty as teacher was properly discharged.

DISTRICT No. 1.

William L. Plamer, P. Committee. Amount of money \$236.01.
The first term was taught by Miss L. F. Nutter, a member of

the senior class of Mount Holyoke Seminary, a young lady of fine culture and superior attainments. She possessed an aptitude for teaching rarely excelled, and having won the respect and good will of her scholars, her school was easily governed. They all became interested in their studies and this interest was kept up until the close of the term. The proficiency made during this term was satisfactory.

The second or Winter term was begun by Mr. Enos George, of Barnstead, a good scholar. After teaching a few days his health failed, and he was obliged to retire. The services of Mr. R. W. Welch, a member of the senior class of Dart. College were fortunately obtained. Mr. W. brought to his task not only a clear perception of what he was required to teach, but a knowledge of how to teach or instruct others. It is too often the case, that the young are taught only to solve simple problems so as to reach the result indicated in the answer of their books, but imperfectly if at all understanding or comprehending the principles which underlie the solution; they learn to repeat certain rules of grammar, such as their memories can readily retain without having the least idea of the principles or construction of the language. In geography a very considerable portion of time is spent in memorizing its endless details, while the prominent facts are all that have any real value. Mr. Welch's scholars were drilled at the black board until they had acquired some definite idea of numbers, and the principles of arithmetic were well understood; his instruction was thorough. In geography, they were first taught to draw the out-lines of the map, then to fill them up with the location of the principal rivers, mountains, and different political divisions or countries. In reading they were first taught the correct pronunciation of words, afterwards the pauses, proper emphasis and every thing required for good readers. This district should be united with No. 8, and the school graded. The larger scholars could then be placed under the instruction of a competent teacher with ample time for the proper discharge of his duties.

DISTRICT No. 2.

William H. Hodgdon, P. Committee. Amount of money \$117.04. This district has taken a "new departure;" it being small with a few scholars, they have usually employed some young

inexperienced teacher, because they could be obtained cheap, and the school thus made a little longer; the consequence is, the pupils are generally backward. During the past year, the prudential Committee had the excellent good judgment to employ an experienced and capable instructress, and under the care of Miss Brock, the school was completely revolutionized, the school room was kept clean and tidy, good order was maintained, and the scholars *required* to study. The improvement was very marked. This district would do well to secure the services of the same teacher another year.

The school-room is not what it should be; perhaps the inhabitants of this district will think it well to erect a better and more commodious house with ample play grounds, and better provided with those appliances usually found in modern rooms for the better illustrating of some of the branches taught.

DISTRICT No. 3.

James W. Blake, P. Committee. Amount of money, \$97.88.

This district is small, consequently the school is short, but notwithstanding the scholars have very respectable attainments, and some will not suffer with a comparison of any of the same age in town. Miss Addie M. Fifield, of Deerfield, kept a good school; she was thoroughly devoted to the interests of her scholars. The examination at the close of the term showed plainly the untiring industry of the teacher in learning many of the little scholars to read, spell and a variety of other information, which is proper to be taught in a school like this. The citizens of this district have every reason to be satisfied with their teacher, and they can do no better than to secure her services another year. Perhaps it would be better to have two short terms rather than one so long. It often happens that scholars become a little tired and restless toward the end of a long term. It was not the case here, but some of them did not attend at the beginning of the term and a few left before its close.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Burleigh F. Hills, P. Committee. Amount of money, \$137.85.

There were two terms in this district, under the tuition of Mrs. R. Thyng, who fully sustained her previous reputation as a thorough, earnest and energetic teacher. If the legal voters of this district could be induced to attend school one day, and were required to sit on those seats as quietly as scholars usually do, there can be no doubt a new school-house would be erected without delay. That a district possessing the wealth, refinement and intelligence of this, should ever consent to have their children assembled and kept in such a room for the space of six hours in a day, is certainly an anomaly not easily explained; such an ill contrived, mean, miserable apology for a school room is surely a reproach to all its inhabitants, and it should be replaced by a new one built in a style commensurate with the pecuniary ability of the district, and furnished in a manner that will make it both comfortable and attractive to the scholars.

DISTRICT No. 5.

William Burnham, P. Committee. Amount of money, \$193.34. The school in this district is one of the largest, and contains some of the best scholars in town. There were two terms, both under the instruction of Mrs. Davis, a very able and conscientious teacher. The school room being rather small for the number of pupils, there was during a part of the first term, rather more noise than was desirable; the attention of both scholars and teacher having been once called to this fact, it was promptly corrected. The progress made was good, the instruction was thorough, as many of the citizens had an opportunity of observing at the close of the term. One class of young ladies particularly, by their readiness in answering questions and the knowledge evinced in all their studies, would have done credit to a school of higher pretensions. The school-room could be easily enlarged and at a trifling expense by taking away the chimney, and building a porch or entrance on the north side of the building; more room could thus be had for additional seats, and for recitation. The room is now poorly supplied with black-boards.

DISTRICT No. 6.

George O. Sanborn, P. Committee. Amount of money, \$153.82. The teacher in this district, taught school once before in this town, and met with a success rarely attained by those older and more experienced; she was recommended to the committee of this district as an instructress who would meet the reasonable expectations of all, and she has fully sustained her previous reputation. Her school has been as thoroughly governed and taught as any in town. It is not often that little boys and girls can be found, who can read and spell as correctly as those of this school, and the older pupils are not excelled by any in this town. The citizens of this district have been accustomed to visit their schools and they have usually had the best of teachers. They can do no better than to secure the services of Miss Veasey another year.

DISTRICT No. 7.

Frank Smith, P. Committee. Amount of money, \$188 87.

This has usually been one of the largest and best schools in town. The first teacher employed was unable to begin her term in consequence of ill health. The second was found to be incompetent and was rejected. The third, Miss N. S. Nutter, a good scholar, and an instructress of large experience, commenced her school under very flattering circumstances, but a contagious disease soon made its appearance and somewhat interfered with the constant attendance of her pupils; still the examination of her school at the close of her first term showed a very fair progress. During the second term there were more and larger scholars; the examination at the close of this term was not favorable to the scholars nor very creditable to the teacher. A male teacher would be better for the winter term.

DISTRICT No. 8.

Joseph S. Dearborn, P. Committee. Amount of money, \$274.00

This is the largest, has the most money, and consequently the longest school, and ought to have the best scholars of any district in town. The committee was late in procuring a teacher, but

finally secured one of age and experience, who, however thought it prudent to retire before her examination was fairly completed. The services of Mr. James B. Martin were finally obtained, who proved to be the "right man in the right place," a thoroughly competent and energetic teacher, under whose administration the school has been growing better and better. There is something radically wrong about this district, as the general appearance of the school room indicates. There ought to be not only the most advanced scholars, but some really fine scholars. During the three terms of school, an effort has been made to induce the pupils to attend regularly, and the average attendance has increased each term, so the percentage is higher for last term than any other school in town. By persistent efforts of the teacher, considerable interest has been awakened in the school room, and there has been a steady progress in the various studies pursued, and the proficiency of the school as a whole has been very commendable. If the parents would take a little more interest, see to it that their children were sent to and kept in the school room, would call in occasionally and thus by their presence let them understand that their advancement was a matter of some consequence, their improvement would be more rapid. This district should be united with No. 1, and a graded school formed. The longer this union is put off, the greater the injustice done to your children.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Pupils who were neither absent, tardy, or dismissed during the term :

DISTRICT NO. 1.

First term—Charles C. Ordway, Charles E. Pike, Caleb Greeley, Albert Pike, Everett Giddings, Mary W. Carr, Abbie E. Stokes, and Carrie Lunt.

Second term—Charles Durant, Daniel W. Ladd, and Forrest Cate.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

First term—George K. Wiggins, and Valerie L. Tuttle.

Second term—George K. Wiggins, and John H. Fogg.

DISTRICT No. 4.

First term—B. Chase, Charles L. Dearborn, Ida B. Caswell, Francena Dearborn, and Carrie Knight.

Second term—B. Chase, Frank Dow, Charles Dearborn, Abbie Chase, Ida Dow, Fannie Dow and Francena Dearborn.

DISTRICT No. 5.

First term—Horace Kennard, Willie Kennard, Charles Coffin, Freddie Leach, Charles Lally, Ida Kennard, Sarah Ladd, Lydia Ladd, Annie L. Leach, Emma Bartlett, Isabel Sinclair, Nellie Ladd, Julia Lally, Rebecca Ladd, Carrie Ladd, and Mary Edgerly.

Second term—Ida Edgerly, Emma Bartlett, and Rebecca Ladd.

DISTRICT No. 6.

First term—Lewis G. Floyd, Freddie B. Sanborn and Sarah P. Blake.

Second Term—Lewis G. Floyd.

DISTRICT No. 7.

First term—Frank Prescott, Charles Jenness, John Page, Fred die Lane, Elva E. Jones, Josie Demerritt, Mary G. Jenness.

Second term—Walter J. Jones.

DISTRICT No. 8.

First term—Ernest Stickney, Samuel Geyer, Charles E. Bean, Florence H. Geyer, Nora Leonard and Olivia F. Bean.

Second term—Ernest Stickney, Florence H. Geyer, Charles E. Norris, Lottie A. Hilton and Nora Thompson.

Third term—Charles Parker, Jay Thompson, Charles E. Norris, Willie H. Norris, Florence H. Geyer, Freddie Perkins, Alvin Spencer, Valentine Murphy, John Murphy, Freddie Murphy, Mary E. Thompson, Nora Thompson, Nora Leonard, Fannie Leonard, Mary A. Donavan, Emily P. Dearborn and Etta Blackley.

H. B. BURNHAM,

S. S. Committee.

EPPING. Feb. 24, 1872.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

| Number of District. | | Terms of Summer and Winter. | Names of Teachers. | Whole number of scholars. | | Average attendance. | | Number between 4 and 14 not attending. | | Instances of tardiness. | | Instances of dismissal. | | Number not absent half day. | | Number of visits of Supt. Committee. | | Number of visits of Prudential Committees. | | Number of visits of citizens and others. | | Wages per month including board. | | Length of school in weeks. | |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|----|---------------------|----|--|---|-------------------------|----|-------------------------|----|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|----|--|----|--|----|----------------------------------|----|----------------------------|----|
| 1 | 2 | | | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 1 | First | Laura F. Nutter . . . | 39 | 34 | 6 | 28 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 25 | \$36 00 | 10 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Second | Robert W. Welch . . | 42 | 36 | | 138 | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 44 00 | 8 | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | First | Lydia A. Brock . . . | 7 | 6 | | 8 | | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 22 00 | 6 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Second | Lydia A. Brock . . . | 11 | 7 | | 56 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 22 00 | 15 | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | First | Addie Fifield . . . | 14 | 10 | | 8 | 4 | | | | | | | 20 | 24 00 | 16 | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | First | Rebecca S. Thyng . . | 14 | 12 | 1 | 3 | | 5 | | | | | | 10 | 29 00 | 8 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Second | Rebecca S. Thyng . . | 12 | 10 | 1 | | | 8 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 31 00 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | First | Kate H. Davis . . . | 47 | 41 | 5 | 11 | 7 | 16 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 22 | 34 00 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Second | Kate H. Davis . . . | 44 | 31 | | 58 | 13 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 10 | 34 00 | 13 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | First | Nettie Veasey . . . | 15 | 14 | 5 | 27 | 28 | 6 | 2 | 2 | | | 9 | 26 00 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Second | Nettie Veasey . . . | 14 | 11 | 6 | 31 | 59 | 1 | 2 | | | | 20 | 26 00 | 15 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | First | Nancie S. Nutter . . | 47 | 36 | 9 | 8 | 16 | 9 | 4 | 4 | | | 18 | 32 00 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Second | Nancie S. Nutter . . | 50 | 38 | | 21 | 25 | 4 | 2 | 2 | | | 27 | 38 00 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | First | James B. Martin . . | 49 | 39 | 10 | 46 | 30 | 6 | 5 | 5 | | | | 42 00 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Second | James B. Martin . . | 63 | 53 | 3 | 18 | 13 | | | 5 | 5 | | 1 | 50 00 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Third | James B. Martin . . | 43 | 38 | 19 | 12 | | 17 | 4 | 1 | 35 | | | 50 00 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | |

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